

1885

## Notes on the 1885 Journal

Rankin MacMillan

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Copy of notes on the 1885 Diary, made by Rankin MacMillan 1979

The parents, James and Martha, are now 51 and 41 years old.

The children are: <sup>Frances</sup> Fannie - 17, Fred - 15, Harlan - 13, Homer - 11, Clara - 9, Clayton - 5 and Jason - 3.

- January, February, March were cold and wet, no plowing done until April 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Corn planting from May 15 to 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Sheared sheep from June 1 to 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Cut wheat July 12-14. Made hay, July 15-29. Cut oats July 29-30.
- In September, daughter Fannie and cousin Lizzie Murdock took a room in Xenia, so they could go to school there.
- During August, September, and October son Fred with a James Caldwell made many trips to Springfield by horse and wagon taking sweet corn, tomatoes, later apples and pumpkins to sell at the market. They would leave (one)

home at midnight to be there by morning market

hours, and would get home about 4:00 P.M.

- First frost came in October
- First snow came in November.
- They had a good potato crop; hauled several loads to Springfield in November.
- In December Martha got a new cooking stove, and a new sewing machine.